



NEWS RELEASE

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Helena National Forest
2880 Skyway Drive
Helena, Montana 59601

Name: Amy Teegarden
Phone: 495-3747

FIRE RESTRICTIONS LIFTED IN HELENA RESTRICTIONS DIVISION

HELENA, MONT., September 19, 2006— Stage One Fire Restrictions were lifted Tuesday, September 19 for Lewis & Clark, Meagher, Broadwater, and Jefferson Counties as well as the portion of the Helena National Forest in Powell County.

This action is being taken because recent rain, snow and higher humidity have helped fire-fighting efforts and moderated fire conditions across central Montana. This means that campers, hunters and other recreational users may now have campfires in undeveloped areas.

Warmer and drier conditions may return this fall, along with increased fire danger. People are reminded that caution should be used with any and all fire. "All campfires should be DEAD OUT prior to departing the campsite." stressed Amy Teegarden, of the Helena National Forest. "Safe practices should also be used when smoking cigarettes or pipes."

For more information, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/> or contact a local Forest Service, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, or Bureau of Land Management Office or your local fire department.

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